

HCC honored  
for pushing  
EV adoption

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College was honored this week by the MassEVolves consortium for taking steps to expand the use of electric vehicles on campus.

The Third Annual MassEVolves Recognition Ceremony was held Wed., Nov. 18, to highlight Massachusetts leaders in the adoption of electric vehicles (EV).

The virtual event was co-hosted by the national nonprofit Recharge America, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

EV, 6

Donation effort  
successful

The Outreach Committee at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Holyoke combined efforts with their Sunday School children and held a Joyful Giving "Drive-thru Drive" on Sunday, Nov. 15. The members were asked to donate non-perishable food items in addition to warm coats, mittens, and hats to be donated to Kate's Kitchen in Holyoke; Kate's Kitchen is part of Providence Ministries.

DONATION, 6

Mall announces  
Black Friday,  
weekend hours

HOLYOKE – While some of the biggest Black Friday deals are already available online, Holyoke Mall is excited to welcome the most popular shopping weekend of the year for shoppers still looking to experience the holiday shopping tradition in a safe and memorable way. The super-regional shopping center will be closed on Thanksgiving but will reopen its doors at 6 a.m. on Black Friday, Nov. 27 until 9:30 p.m. On Saturday, the mall will be open from 9 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. and on Sunday from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Click here for a complete list of Holyoke Mall's holiday hours.

MALL, 6

Vega looks forward to  
heading back to city hall

By Shelby Macri  
smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – State Representative, Aaron Vega will be taking on a new role in the beginning of next year. Vega will be the Director of the Planning and Economic Development Department, with his first day being Jan. 25, 2021.

Mayor Alex Morse announced the resignation of the current Director, Marcos Marrero on Nov. 12. Marrero spent more than eight years leading the City's development strategies, and he will be retiring on Friday, Jan. 22, 2021 to provide a smooth transition for Vega.

Vega has experience in the City's economic development projects and trajectories. He has served as a City Councilor and Chair of the Redevelopment Committee before becoming a State Rep.

"Having been the Representative for Holyoke for the past 8 years it seemed

a natural transition to bring my skill set and passion for Holyoke and Economic development directly to city hall," Vega said. "Additionally, having worked with Marcos and his team in the OPED office my ability to hit the ground running is important to ensure projects keep moving forward."



Aaron Vega

While he served as a State Rep., Vega working with city administration on legislative priorities that were included in two landmark Economic Development bills, land transactions, and innovative programing. Including the Holyoke-specific liquor license program and was a member of the legislature's Joint Committee on Cannabis.

"My work on committees such as Economic Development, the Cannabis Policy Committee Members and others has provided me with an understanding of the State programs and other opportunities for Holyoke," Vega said. "My relationship

with many of the developers and businesses in the city will also be an asset to keep current projects forward and work on new projects for Holyoke. I am well aware of the obstacles and struggles of the city as well as the assets and opportunities we have."

Vega has helped the city in many ways over the years as a State Rep., and this position provides more opportunities for Vega to continue helping the city. Marrero had reached out to Vega, saying that he was leaving and that he wanted Vega to consider the position. Vega met with Mayor Morse and others to explore the option, before feeling that the position was a good fit for him. One that would allow him to utilize his skill set and interests.

"There are a number of projects in the pipeline including a number cannabis companies, new housing projects and others that I will be working to get to the finish line. We have an urban renewal plan, that I ushered in when I was on the city council, that provides a road map for the

See VEGA, page 6

Creativity key  
to effective  
remote  
learning

By Shelby Macri  
smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – Despite schools having to do remote learning this year, teachers at Dr. Marcella R. Kelly school are getting creative to get positive student interaction. The teachers and staff are trying hard to bring some normalcy into the classroom.

The biggest change for Principal Luis Soria, is finding ways to engage students in learning through a screen. Teachers typically use, tone, movements and interaction in the classroom but it's different behind a screen so they're coming up with ingenious ways interact with the kids now.

Teachers are narrating and pointing out students who are doing well in class and what they're doing right. This encourages students to continue to do the things that they were praised for, and other students will follow lead. One teacher would say what students were doing right, and for

See LEARNING, page 11

Food Bank of Western Mass anticipates winter rush

Monte's March Nov. 23  
and 24 will raise  
money for meals

By Dalton Zbierski  
Staff Writer

HATFIELD – At all times of the year, the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts serves as an invaluable community resource. With temperatures plummeting and COVID-19 case counts rising on a regional scale, the Hatfield facility enters the winter prepared to play a more crucial role than it ever has before.

"It is a challenge, but we do have a warehouse full of food," said Lillian Baulding, the Food Bank's communications and engagement officer. "We have done a lot of pivoting since COVID started and are meeting the needs. The entire team has pitched in. A lot of people are doing work that they weren't doing before. They're taking on extra assignments, and it's just getting done."

The Food Bank distributes

See FOOD, page 11



The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts has been making a difference throughout the region since 1982. The COVID-19 pandemic has presented the facility its greatest challenge.



Brian Longto operates a piece of machinery inside the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts.



The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts operates out of a 35,000 sq. ft. warehouse in Hatfield and serves dozens of member agencies scattered throughout the region.

Turley Publications staff photos by Dalton Zbierski



Food Operations Manager Mike Cortis stands beside Communications and Engagement Officer Lillian Baulding inside the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts in Hatfield.



# Library board seeking three new members

By **Shelby Macri**  
smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Public Library is currently looking to fill three positions on the Board of Directors as City Representatives. This position involves a volunteer that is appointed by the City to serve as a Library board member.

According to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners handbook, “The Library Board as a whole should represent a broad spectrum of the community. A Board consisting of diverse viewpoints assures that the library will save the total community.”

The Board of Directors is a group of citizen volunteers that the public library is entrusted to for governing. The Board is a vital link between the library and the community. Members are library advocates, and leaders who develop service willingly, responsibly, and creatively for all members of the public.

Each board member, whether elected or City appointed brings certain strength, skills, talents, and personal experience to the Board in order to uniquely serve the library. The Board is successful when creating working relationships with the community, library staff, and fellow Board members.

Member responsibilities include

attending and participating in all board meetings, being informed about all phases of library operation, lending expertise and leadership to the board for the good of the library, helps to secure adequate municipal funding, participates in fundraising activities, and visiting the library often.

Qualifications for board members include the appreciation of the library and a desire to provide the best library service for the community, and a willingness to be a team player. Those who are interested should have the ability to work with people, to plan, and to put aside personal preferences for the greater good of the library.

The library is looking for volunteers

who represent a brand spectrum of the community. The MBLC handbook says “An effective Board member is one who participates intelligently in the entire political process: understanding municipal finance, local budgetary pressures, personnel concerns, and the administrative practices of the municipality as a whole.”

The Library Board of Directors recognizes the library is part of a larger municipal structure and members will build stronger partnerships within the community. If any resident is interested in applying they can send a letter of interest and a resume to mayorsoffice@holyoke.org or call the Mayor’s Office at 413-322-5510.

## MUSEUM DONATION



Pam Brough, President of the Board at The Children’s Museum is presented a check for \$1,000 by Tom Bartley, General Manager and Chief Engineer, Essential Power, West Springfield Station. Essential Power made the donation to the museum’s Gratitude Campaign recently.

Submitted photo

## Rapid COVID-19 test to be offered at public schools

HOLYOKE – This week, the Holyoke Public School were notified it was selected by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to offer the Abbott BinaxNOW rapid antigen test for COVID-19 in school health offices across the district. The Abbott BinaxNOW test is a highly accurate and minimally invasive anterior nasal swab test. The test must be administered by a trained health professional and results are available in just 15 minutes. The school nurses will be participating in training and will be administering the test at the point-of-care to individuals with COVID-like symptoms.

Testing to diagnose COVID-19 is just one part of the COVID-response strategies and is used with health-promoting behaviors that reduce the spread such as frequent hand cleaning, physical distancing of at least 6 feet, and wearing face-coverings properly. Additionally, the schools are working to maintain a healthy school environment and healthy operations, and are prepared for when someone gets sick. The school district will be providing additional information about rapid antigen testing over the coming weeks. Please watch for it. The safety of students and staff is a top priority at HPS.

## Six Flags planning holiday event

AGAWAM – The most wonderful time of the year kicks off on select nights starting November 27 with Holiday in the Park Lights!

We will be open from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Holiday in the Park Lights will feature a one-way path with more than one million dazzling lights, beautifully adorned Christmas trees and an extraordinary synchronized light display.

Holiday in the Park Lights jingles weekends and select days this holiday season and reservations are required! All guests will review our enhanced safety opening procedures while making their reservations online.

While the property’s world-class rides and attractions will remain closed for the 2020 season, Six Flags New England is thrilled to welcome guests back to the park and warm their hearts this holiday season on this whimsical light trail that is over one mile long!

Tickets are only \$19.99 of free of charge to Members and Season Pass Holders

Holiday in the Park Lights is free of charge to all Members and Season Pass holders. Or enjoy single-day

tickets for \$19.99.

We are following direction from the CDC and local officials and are operating at a limited capacity. It’s very important that you make an advance reservation; failure to do so will deny entry to the park.



Six Flags normally has a holiday event, but it will be modified this year due to the pandemic. There will be Lights in the Parks beginning Nov. 27.

Submitted photo

## Spots open for ‘Learning Support Pods’

HOLYOKE – HPS has partnered with the Boys and Girls Club, Homework House, OneHolyoke, Girls Inc. and the YMCA to offer Learning Support Pods for students in grades K-8. Learning Support Pods provide supervision and support with remote learning, especially for students for whom remote learning is least likely to be effective or for families whose parents are essential workers. Students will still be taught by HPS teachers and staff in the remote setting and the community-based organizations provide supervision and facilitation support. We are collecting applications for the waitlist, since we have been able to offer a seat to nearly everyone who applied in the first

round. Apply now to be on the waitlist.

The pods have begun, and we have funding to continue at least through January. Learning pods have up to 13 students, supported by 2 staff members. They operate during typical school hours, 5 days a week. All health and safety guidelines will be followed, including wearing face coverings/masks, physical distancing, frequent hand washing, enhanced cleaning, and staying home when sick. Transportation will not be provided because families need to drop their child off at the host organization in order to comply with a wellness check, a requirement of the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC).

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**CLUES ACROSS**  
1. Cold War player  
5. Flat-bottomed sailboat  
10. Jamaican tangelo  
14. Debauched man  
15. Less covered  
16. Require to live  
17. Patrick and Aykroyd are two  
18. Mixes  
19. Insurance claim expenses  
20. Tries to persuade  
22. Equal (prefix)  
23. Czech name for Prague  
24. London soccer team  
27. Greek letter  
30. Small Eurasian deer  
31. Swiss river  
32. Miller beer  
35. Less appealing  
37. 8th month (abbr.)  
38. \_\_ Alto, California city  
39. Grandmothers  
40. American time

41. NW Chinese people

42. "Westworld" actress \_\_ Rachel Wood

43. Northeastern US university

44. Poplar trees (Spanish)

45. Hip hop legend Kool Moe \_\_

46. Not or

47. Corpuscle count (abbr.)

48. Comedienne Gasteyer

49. Fonts

52. Female cattle mammary gland

55. Down time

56. Spiritual leader

60. Small brown and gray American rail

61. Trimmed by cutting

63. NY Giants owner

64. A long narrative poem

65. Old World lizard

66. Product for sale

67. Shut Your Pie Hole (abbr.)

68. Pacific Island country

69. Whale ship captain

**CLUES DOWN**  
1. Language  
2. Fly high in the air  
3. Made musical sounds  
4. Organized again  
5. TV channel  
6. Unable to fly  
7. Get up  
8. Air traveler  
9. Married woman  
10. Take weapons from  
11. Sicilian city  
12. Actress Remini  
13. Thought  
21. Infections  
23. Golf score  
25. Hill or rocky peak  
26. Witch  
27. Adjusted  
28. Succulent plant  
29. Forearm bones  
32. Hot fluid in the earth's crust

33. Subatomic particle

34. Part of an organism

36. 007's creator

37. Burned material residue

38. Brain layer: \_\_ mater

40. Unable to partake

41. Lesion

43. Historic railroad company (abbr.)

44. Basics

46. Scottish port

47. Flower cluster

49. Instruct

50. Untamed

51. Moth genus

52. Utilizes

53. Foolish

54. Fall in small drops

57. A place to get clean

58. La \_\_ Tar Pits

59. Metrical foot

61. Semiliquid food

62. Small crow

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 5

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# Online Program to discuss local labor activist



Anna Sullivan will be the subject of a presentation by Wistariahurst Museum on Dec. 2.

Submitted photo

HOLYOKE – On Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 2 p.m., Wistariahurst will host Anna Sullivan: Labor’s First Lady in Western Massachusetts presented by historian Mara Dodge as part of an ongoing series of live, virtual programming. This presentation will be free and open to all. Pre-registration is required.

Heralded by Senator Ted Kennedy as “Labor’s First Lady in Western Massachusetts,” those who knew Anna Burns Sullivan (1903-83) used similar terms to describe her: she was a “dynamo” and “a real fighter for her people.” Although well-known throughout her lifetime as “the little fireball from Western Massachusetts,” her memory has been all but forgotten. Equally forgotten is the experience of an entire generation of textile mill workers who labored in obscurity from the Great Depression to the closing of the New England textile mills in the 1950s and 1960s. Although nicknamed the “Paper City,” Holyoke’s textile plants employed far more workers

than did the less labor-intensive paper mills. The textile industry also employed more women (50-60% of workers) at far lower wages. In Holyoke, until recently, most popular histories celebrated the alleged benevolence and paternalism of the mill owners, championing Holyoke as a city where class conflict did not exist. The fact that 5,000 Holyoke workers participated in the 1934 national textile strike was rarely mentioned. This presentation explores Anna Sullivan’s pioneering work as a female labor union activist, the role of unions in creating the middle class, and the impact of deindustrialization.

This program has been specially designed to address the needs of area seniors, many of whom continue to be socially isolated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is supported through a Community Development Block Grant - COVID-19 Grant to address, prevent, and respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic that is admin-

istered through the Holyoke Office of Community Development and has been planned in consultation with the Holyoke Council on Aging. Additional support has been provided through NEH CARES Act funding granted by Mass Humanities.

To register for Anna Sullivan: Labor’s First Lady in Western Massachusetts or any future programs, please visit [www.Wistariahurst.org](http://www.Wistariahurst.org) or contact Eileen Maginnis at the Holyoke Council on Aging at [maginnise@holyo-oke.org](mailto:maginnise@holyo-oke.org). If you have an idea for a topic you’d like to be considered for a future Wistariahurst session, please contact [info@wistariahurst.org](mailto:info@wistariahurst.org).

Future virtual programs will focus on a diverse range of historical and cultural topics including programs on nature, art, history, travel, and social justice. Upcoming presentations are set to include the natural history of the Pioneer Valley and the history of Holyoke’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

# Showing appreciation to veterans by handing out turkeys

By Jonah Snowden  
[jsnowden@turley.com](mailto:jsnowden@turley.com)

LUDLOW —Despite the cold, gloomy weather, local officials lined up outdoors to serve those who serve their country.

Director of Veterans Services Eric Segundo, Event Coordinator of Massachusetts Military Support Foundation Ken Melanson and Selectman Derek DeBarge participated in Ludlow’s third annual turkey drive on Nov. 16 outside Town Hall to make sure local veterans can celebrate a traditional Thanksgiving.

This event, “Turkey 4 Vets,” took place not just in the town of Ludlow, but in different Western Massachusetts towns, such as Chicopee, Holyoke, North Adams and more, in an effort to support local veterans. In preparation of the annual event, Town Veterans Service officers picked up 200 packaged turkeys from 90 Meat Outlet in Springfield to distribute to their veterans.

Classic Hits 97.7 FM, 90 Meat Outlet, and News Radio 560 WHYN also helped put this event together.

Segundo said they advertised the event through social media and on the town’s website to let area veterans know about this opportunity and sign up to receive a Thanksgiving turkey. Segundo said about 45 veterans requested turkeys, which were distributed in a drive-through pick-up line to minimize COVID-19 spread.



200 Thanksgiving turkeys from 90 Meat Outlet in Springfield were collected at Ludlow Town Hall to distribute to local veterans.

Courtesy photo

“Especially this year, of all years, with the pandemic, many families are struggling to get by,” said Segundo. “Just being able to provide a turkey is another great way that we take care of our veterans here.”

Similar sentiments were shared by Melanson and DeBarge, who helped distribute the packaged turkeys.

“Anytime he [Segundo] has an opportunity to serve those who have served our country, I’m happy to oblige and be a part of the team,” said Melanson. “It’s an honor and privilege to serve our veteran. These turkeys going



Town officials and other volunteers gathered outside Town Hall to distribute several dozen turkeys to local veterans for Thanksgiving last week.

Courtesy photo

out are a blessing, for sure.” DeBarge also was happy to play his part in distributing the main dish that makes a Thanksgiving dinner complete.

“I enjoy everything about my involvement in this event and any event, that I participate as a selectman,” he said.

“I can’t express my affection [enough] for this town, its people. Any event that we do, I try to make myself available. Obviously, when it has to do with our veterans, being one myself, I try to make myself as available as I can. Whether it be serving dinners, or being here to hand out turkeys, I’ll be there for them.”



Selectman Derek DeBarge hands out a turkey to one of the veterans who showed up for Ludlow’s annual giveaway to local veterans.

Turley Publications staff photos by Jonah Snowden



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Poetry Corner

Thanks Giving – Giving Thanks

by Thomas J. Kennedy

Thanksgiving is a day of brotherly/sisterly love  
Whether the person is here or far away . . .  
He has inspired our parents with vigor and vim,  
And we children should be grateful to them.

He has shown the love and discipline instilled  
by grandparents  
Who soon missing – Heaven sent  
Now, last or first for some.

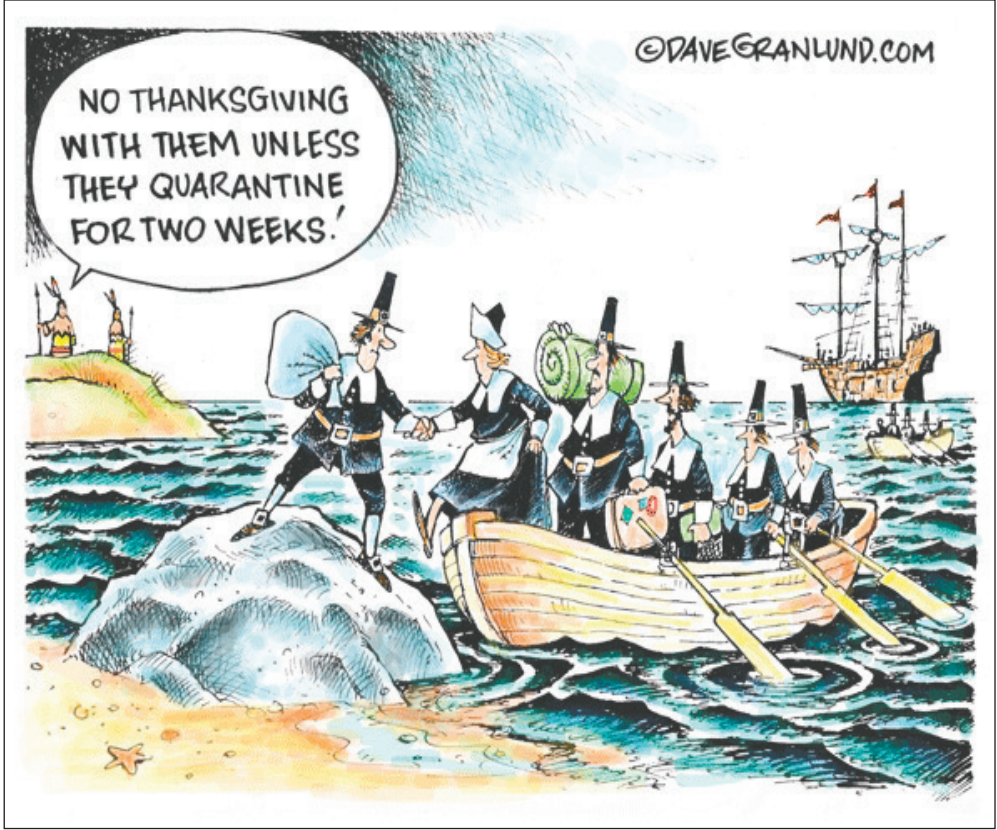
Don't forget your teachers  
Especially the one who believed,  
gave you confidence  
By nourishing you –  
yes, no, also made you responsible  
With balanced happiness, humor and fun.

Anyone may teach  
But not everyone can educate.  
It involves hard work, pride and idealism.

It also involves genuine love, concern  
In putting the child first,  
listening with genuine love,  
Protecting students no matter  
how much time given;  
And listening to their problems –  
whether intellectual,  
Special or psychological . . .  
Listen a little bit more.

Looking at a time when students deserve more.  
More generosity needed during this virus . . .  
Kindness, compassion,  
empathy as being cheated  
In so many things as it should be  
slower and calmer for them.  
So be unselfish as these are cheating times.

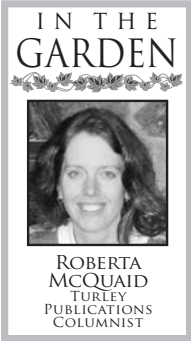
But remember suffering now . . .  
will make you stronger later.  
Look at the heart with  
encouragement and compassion  
More than the mind.  
God bless the young teens today.  
Happy Giving Thanks!



Guest Columns

Wishing for winter squash

You should never take anything for granted, especially when it comes to the garden's bounty. While it doesn't seem possible to have 50 winter squash one year and none just a couple years later, that is the predicament I found myself in this fall. I thought I did everything right! I planted the seeds a day or two shy of Memorial Day in a sunny spot that had been fertilized and composted. The seedlings came up strong. I left a floating row cover over them until they were ready to bust through, preventing cucumber beetles from nibbling when they were most vulnerable. But alas, the drought came and with it a dry well. The plants became stressed. Some developed vine borer and/or powdery mildew. While it looked as if I would still get a harvest, this was just wishful thinking. Not long after setting the few fruits I had on the stone wall to cure, most began to rot. Once I realized that this is the way it was heading



I gave the rest to the chickens; at least they got to enjoy them. Gratefully my mom will provide the coveted butternut squash for Thanksgiving dinner. There is an easy way to prepare it without peeling and chopping! Simply wash the squash and cut it in half length-wise. Then, scoop out the seeds and bake cut-side down on a greased cookie sheet or in a casserole dish. At 375 degrees, a butternut can take anywhere from 40 minutes to one hour to cook. Test by inserting a fork into the thickest part of flesh; if it goes in easily, it's done! Scoop out all of the flesh, even the caramelized parts, and mash with a fork or an immersion blender depending on how chunky (or not!) you like it. Season it to taste with cinnamon or better yet, pumpkin pie spice. And if you have a sweet tooth, try adding maple syrup or brown sugar; or even a bit of molasses. A little butter helps too!

See GARDEN, page 11

Election takeaways

By Lee Hamilton

Every year right after an election, I'd find a small pile of requests waiting for me from journalists. They wanted some sort of comment on what it all meant. "What are the voters telling us?" they'd ask. It's human nature to want to make sense of such a complex picture—to draw conclusions from many millions of individual decisions. But it is also politically important, because how elected officials interpret the results, or seek to convince others to interpret the results, goes a long way toward shaping the impact of the election. The key thing to recognize in the wake of November's voting, and this will not come as news, is that we live in a sharply divided country. When the votes are all counted, projections suggest Joe Biden will wind up with about an 8 million-vote, 4 percentage-point lead, hardly a landslide but still a decisive margin. At the same time, Republicans retain a narrow margin in the Senate and made gains in the House. What all this adds up to is a governance challenge. Without Republicans and Democrats agreeing to find common ground, it will be hard for the U.S. to exert strong influence around the world and to get ambitious things done. When voters are as on edge as they still appear to be, building a broad and sustainable consensus in favor of difficult policy decisions is arduous. It's also worth remembering that our election is watched all over the world, and not casually: ordinary citizens and political leaders

in country after country pay close attention. Because the U.S. plays such a critical global role, they worry when they see us conducting an election that the losing side characterizes as corrupt or in some way faulty. That's why the statements of the outgoing president and his Republican allies have been damaging. They feed into the false narrative Vladimir Putin has been trying to peddle about our system, that it is falling apart. ... to see one party mounting an all-out attack on the integrity of the countless Americans who view running elections as a sacred trust is, to put it mildly, disturbing. In the run-up to the election, my chief concern was about efforts to suppress votes. Yet despite the obstacles thrown in their way, millions more Americans voted this time around than ever before. Their determination to make their voices count despite long lines and other inconveniences was inspiring. Similarly, the remarkable efforts by state and local elections administrators of both parties to hold a free and fair election in the middle of a pandemic, with more turnout than they'd ever experienced, ought to be recognized and celebrated. It was a heartening display of dedication to American values. It is not a perfect system; we always have islands of misconduct. But I used to spend election day going around to visit precincts, and always was deeply appreciative of the seriousness of election day workers from all walks of life and backgrounds. They understood what was at stake and wanted to make sure our system worked and was fair and honest.

So, to see one party mounting an all-out attack on the integrity of the countless Americans who view running elections as a sacred trust is, to put it mildly, disturbing. We're all pleased or disappointed with the results of elections, depending on our preferences, but win or lose, our civic duty as citizens is the same. We should take pride in our country and its ability to conduct these elections fairly. The dangerous game of questioning the validity of the vote could have reverberations for years to come, and sow even more division than we already face. The point is a lot of candidates lose in an election. Half of them, roughly. A vital part of our democracy is how we and they come out of it—that we accept the result and continue to support and improve the system, always working toward a more perfect union. This is what makes it possible for us to govern in this great and diverse country. Americans can accept differences of opinion and not condemn the people who voted for a different candidate. We accept the results of the election and move on. To behave otherwise is to weaken our democracy, perhaps beyond bearing. Lee Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



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A Quote

OF NOTE

"The turkey.  
The sweet potatoes.  
The stuffing.  
The pumpkin pie.  
Is there anything else  
we all can agree so  
vehemently about?  
I don't think so."

Nora Ephron

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published. Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon. Please email (preferred) letters to the-sun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



Public Notices

**Holyoke Historical Commission**  
**Public Hearing Notice**  
**Demolition Application:**  
58 Waldo Street - Garage  
(092-00-079)  
**Applicant:**  
Jonathan and Rema Mills,  
58 Waldo Street,  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
Monday, December 14, 2020  
at 6:30 p.m.  
Due to the declared public health emergency, the meeting will be held via zoom.us  
**Join Zoom Meeting:**  
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82923085674  
**Or call** 1(301) 715 8592  
**(Meeting ID: 829 2308 5674)**  
**For additional information contact:** Ben Murphy  
murphyb@holyoke.org  
(413) 322-5655  
11/27, 12/04/2020

**Comisión Histórica de Holyoke**  
**Aviso de Audiencia Pública**  
**Solicitudes para Demolición:** 58 Waldo Street - Garaje (092-00-079)  
**Solicitante:**  
Jonathan and Rema Mills,  
58 Waldo Street,  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
lunes 14 de Diciembre de 2020 a las 6:30 p.m.  
Debido a la emergencia de salud pública declarada, la reunión se llevará a cabo a través de zoom.us  
**Unese a la reunion de Zoom aqui:** https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82923085674  
o llame al 1(301) 715 8592  
**(Meeting ID: 829 2308 5674)**  
**Para mas información favor de llamar a:** Ben Murphy  
murphyb@holyoke.org  
(413) 322-5655  
11/27, 12/04/2020

**Notice of Public Hearing**  
The DGR Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:30 pm** to hear 2 Special Permit applications of Holyoke Landing LLC for a Drive-Thru Facility (Fast Casual Restaurant/Fast-Food 7.1.6) and a Drive-Thru Facility (Bank – Drive-Up Teller/ATM

7.1.6) at Lower Westfield Rd. (Map 117 Block 00 Parcel 005) Meeting will take place remotely and can be accessed **via www.zoom.us Meeting ID: 842 2808 2035 Meeting Passcode: 100297** or by call in at 1 (929)205-6099 with same Meeting ID and Password. Written public comment can be submitted to publiccomment@holyoke.org. For information on these applications please contact City Council Admin. Assistant Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at anderson-burgosj@holyoke.org or by phone at (413) 322-5525.  
DGR Chair: Bartley  
11/27, 12/04/2020

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**CITY OF HOLYOKE**  
**GAS & ELECTRIC**  
**DEPARTMENT**  
**JACKSON SREET UPPER YARD REPAVING**  
Sealed bids for the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:00 p.m., January 19, 2021** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

**Bid Deposit:**  
A Bid Deposit equal to 5% of the total value of the bid must accompany all bids and may be in the form of a certified, treasurer's, or cashier's check payable to HG&E from a responsible bank or trust company; cash; or a bid bond from a licensed surety payable to HG&E.

**Prevailing Wage Rates:**  
Prevailing Wage Rates set by the Mass. Dept. of Labor & Industries shall be paid to all people en-gaged in work under this contract.

**Mandatory Site Visit:**  
All Bidders must make a site visit prior to the bid due date in order for their bid to be considered valid. A site visit can be arranged by contacting Sarah LaRose at (413) 536-9409 or via email to slarose@hged.com  
Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308  
cwong@hged.com  
The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Please mark sealed envelopes **"Bid for Jackson Street Upper Yard Repaving"** and address them to:

**James Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
11/27/2020

**Notice of Public Hearing**  
The DGR Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:30 pm** to hear a Special Permit application of The Log Cabin Banquet & Meeting House, Inc. for a Drive-Thru Facility per section 7.1.6 of the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance at 500 Easthampton Rd. (Map 213 Block 00 Parcel 003). Meeting will take place remotely and can be accessed **via www.zoom.us Meeting ID: 842 2808 2035 Meeting Passcode: 100297** or by call in at 1 (929)205-6099 with same Meeting ID: and Password. Written public comment can be submitted to publiccomment@holyoke.org. For information on these applications please contact City Council Admin. Assistant Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at anderson-burgosj@holyoke.org or by phone at (413) 322-5525.  
DGR Chair: Bartley  
11/27, 12/04/2020

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**CITY OF HOLYOKE**  
**GAS & ELECTRIC**  
**DEPARTMENT**  
**UTILITY LINE MATERIAL**  
Sealed bids for furnishing the above material will

be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:00 p.m. December 17, 2020** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308  
cwong@hged.com

The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Please mark sealed envelopes **"Bid for 2021 Utility Line Material"** and address them to:

**James M. Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
11/27/2020

**Notice of Public Hearing**  
The DGR Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6:30 pm** to hear a Special Permit application of Valley Opportunity Council Inc. for an extension of pre-existing non-conforming structure at 348 Chestnut St/48-52 Franklin St. (Map 009 Block 060 Parcel 005) Meeting will take place remotely and can be accessed **via www.zoom.us Meeting ID: 842 2808 2035 Meeting Passcode: 100297** or by call in at 1 (929)205-6099 with same Meeting ID: and Password. Written public comment can be submitted to publiccomment@holyoke.org. For information on these applications please contact City Council Admin. Assistant Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at anderson-burgosj@holyoke.org or by phone at (413) 322-5525.  
DGR Chair: Bartley  
11/27, 12/04/2020

baby's first Christmas



**Rayah Marie Bassett**  
**October 21, 2020**

**Parents:** Sarah Benoit and Zachary Bassett, South Hadley  
**Grandparents:** Sharleen and Michael Roman, South Hadley  
Gail and David Bassett, Ware

**Turley Publications**  
**would like to help you**  
**show off the newest member**  
**of your family this Christmas,**  
**for FREE!**

Mail to: Turley Publications,  
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069,  
Attn: Jamie Joslyn  
Include a self addressed/stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: **BABY'S FIRST.** This offer is available to all babies born in 2020. Pictures will be published the week of December 21-25, 2020.

Baby's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Town of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Grandparents' Names & Town of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

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Telephone #: (not to be printed - for office use only) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check the newspaper you would like your announcement to appear.*

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Agawam Advertiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Quaboag Current             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barre Gazette     | <input type="checkbox"/> The Register                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicopee Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Sentinel                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Country Journal   | <input type="checkbox"/> Town Reminder               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Holyoke Sun   | <input type="checkbox"/> Ware River News             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Journal Register  | <input type="checkbox"/> The Wilbraham-Hampden Times |

**Deadline for photos and forms is**  
**Friday, December 4, 2020**

**Turley**  
Publications, Inc.  
**www.turley.com**

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ARE NOW ONLINE

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- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

*Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon,  
Fridays noon for Monday holidays.*

**visit www.publicnotices.turley.com**

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Warm Wishes From Our Family  
to Yours at Thanksgiving

As we gather around with family and friends this holiday, we offer up thanks for the many blessings that make life meaningful. Gifts like friendship, love, health and prosperity make us especially grateful, and we hope you enjoy these same blessings in abundance at this special time of year and always.

*We're so grateful to be a part of this wonderful community, and we thank you for your valued business. Happy Thanksgiving!*

24 Water Street | Palmer, Massachusetts  
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**Turley**  
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Dexter Gess, Deb Callahan and Cassie Cervone, members of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, collect donations to benefit Kate's Kitchen. Submitted photo

**DONATION, from page 1**

The drive thru was a rousing success; they collected enough donations to fill the backs of 2 pickup trucks with food and warm clothing. It was all delivered to Kate's Kitchen on Monday, Nov. 16. The church has been holding "Drive-thru Drives" as a way to continue their outreach activities to the community in a socially distance and safe manner during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The next drive-thru will be on

Saturday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon titled "Giving Tree 2020." The community can help their efforts by dropping off men's and women's toiletry kits/gift bags, new blankets or toys on that day to once again benefit Kate's Kitchen. Please label your gift if you wrap it (EX: female toiletries, stuffed animal, toy truck). Santa and his elves (a.k.a. church volunteers) will gladly accept your donation and get it down to Kate's Kitchen for the Christmas holidays. The church is located at 34 Jarvis Avenue in Holyoke.

**VEGA, from page 1**

direction the city is going," Vega said. "Making sure the Mall is supported as well as the other businesses in the city is key. Of course managing our way

out this recession and getting people back to work, safely, will be a major priority."

Vega will be welcomed to his new city position, on Monday, January 25, 2021 where he will be able to put his skills to work for the city once again.

**EV, from page 1**

HCC was one of 19 Mass. organizations and colleges singled out during the ceremony, including just three others from western Mass.: Hampshire College, the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and Bard College at Simon's Rock.

"The work you are all doing is critical to the future of the Commonwealth and critical to us making this important transition" to the state's goal of reaching zero net emissions by 2050, said EEA Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "A key piece of bending our emissions curve" will be electric vehicles, she said.

To receive recognition, MassEVolves participants create and execute an EV Action Plan that outlines steps they are taking to help Massachusetts residents gain greater access to electric vehicles, which may include installing EV chargers, holding educational events, and more.

HCC has an EV station in the parking lot outside its Center for Health Education and Simulation on Jarvis Avenue in Holyoke along with spaces allocated for zero emission vehicles in the visitors parking lot by its Campus Center, where wiring already exists to

install EV charging stations.

"We have been working with MassEVolves to come up with a plan to install more charging stations and encourage EV adoption," said Narayan Sampath, HCC vice president of Administration and Finance. "We are also looking to purchase at least one electric vehicle with grants or subsidies from the state. These efforts are not only good for the environment but will also help us realize significant cost savings."

Increasing the number of electric vehicles in Massachusetts is expected to revitalize local economies in Massachusetts and across the country. Recharge America has shown that EVs can deliver over \$1,000 per year per vehicle in local economic development benefit to communities where they reside.

"We congratulate each of our 2020 MassEVolves Honorees for the work they've done and the commitments they've made toward the adoption of electric vehicles in Massachusetts," said Kirk Brown, chief executive officer of Recharge America. "The initiatives undertaken by MassEVolves participants will benefit their employees, customers, and all residents of the Commonwealth for the years and decades to come."

**MALL, from page 1**

On Black Friday, select stores will be opening even earlier. Anchor store hours are listed below:

- Best Buy: Opens at 5 a.m. on Black Friday and remains open until 10 p.m.
- Burlington: Opens at 7 a.m. on Black Friday and remains open until 10 p.m.
- Christmas Tree Shops: Opens at 6 a.m. on Black Friday and remains open until 10 p.m.
- Hobby Lobby: Opens at 8 a.m. on Black Friday and remains open until 9 p.m.
- JCPenney: Opens at 5 a.m. on Black Friday and remains open until 10 p.m.
- Macy's: Opens at 5 a.m. on Black Friday and remains open until 12 a.m.
- Target: Opens at 7 a.m. on Black Friday and remains open until 10 p.m.

Holyoke Mall is taking necessary steps to ensure the safety of guests and employees this holiday shopping season by following guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the State of Massachusetts and Hampden County. Masks and social distancing will continue to be required to enter the property and guests are required to follow the center's Healthy Shopper Guidelines, which include:

1. Face masks or coverings must be

worn by everyone and must cover both the mouth and nose. Face masks must be worn both inside and outside of the property.

2. Refrain from touching your nose, mouth and eyes.

3. Keep a safe distance from other people, a minimum of 6 feet.

4. Stay to the right and follow the one-way traffic arrows throughout the property.

5. Wash your hands with soap and warm water frequently and for at least 20 seconds.

6. Use hand sanitizer stations located throughout the property.

7. Avoid standing in lines and keep a safe distance from other people.

8. Avoid touching products you do not intend to purchase.

9. Please assess your health before visiting. Please do not enter the building if you have, or recently have had, symptoms associated with COVID-19: a temperature greater than 100.00°F, cough, body aches, rash, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, etc.

10. We ask that you not enter our property if you, or anyone you have been in close contact with, has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or been placed in a quarantine for possible contact with COVID-19.

Guests are reminded to check individual store hours, as well as a list of Black Friday sales, by visiting [www.holyokemall.com](http://www.holyokemall.com).

Read The Sun online at [www.sun.turley.com](http://www.sun.turley.com)

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### BUY DIRECT AND SAVE \$\$\$

USDA INSP. FRESH PORK LOIN RIBEND or LOINEND ROAST..... **\$1<sup>65</sup>** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN..... **\$1<sup>29</sup>** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH PORK RIBS COUNTRYSTYLE..... **\$1<sup>55</sup>** lb

**SLICED IN OUR DELI**

USDA INSP. TURKEY BREAST..... **\$3<sup>99</sup>** lb

**TAIL GATE SPECIALS**

USDA INSP. STORE MADE ITALIAN MARINATED BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST **\$2<sup>29</sup>** lb

USDA INSP. STORE MADE TEXAS BBQ MARINATED BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS **\$2<sup>29</sup>** ea

USDA INSP. STORE MADE TERIYAKI MARINATED BEEF SKIRT STEAKS..... **\$6<sup>99</sup>** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE **\$6<sup>99</sup>** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS **\$4<sup>44</sup>** lb

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF **\$3<sup>07</sup>** lb 7 lb. bag

**CUSTOMER PICK OF THE WEEK** USDA INSP. FRESH WHOLE BEEF BRISKET **\$2<sup>77</sup>**

USDA INSP. FROZEN ROASTER CHICKEN..... **69¢** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG **97¢** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN LEGS 1/4s 40 LB BOX..... **69¢** lb

USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 26/30 COUNT 40 LB BOX..... **\$15<sup>99</sup>** ea

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

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**HOURS:** Mon. - Wed. 8-4  
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## Annual TOY DRIVE

### Toy Drive Has Begun

We are collecting items for ALL AGES!

New, unwrapped toys

New clothes

Monetary Donations are welcome:

Direct line for Santa!

No stuffed animals, please!

**Deliver items ANY TIME OF DAY to 650 New Ludlow Rd, South Hadley**





# This Black Friday, Internet & Mobile meet awesome savings.

During the **Xfinity Black Friday Sales Event**, you **can get \$200** back when you get Xfinity Internet and add Xfinity Mobile. That’s huge savings on fast, reliable Internet and Mobile with nationwide 5G included on the most reliable network. And that means more of the family-calling, video-gaming, binge-watching, viral-videoing **awesome** you love. Now that’s how you do Black Friday right.

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**The Xfinity Black Friday Sales Event ends December 7.**  
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Internet offer requires enrollment in both automatic payments and paperless billing. Must enroll within 30 days of placing order for advertised offer. Without enrollment, service charge automatically increases by \$10/mo. 12-month automatic payment and paperless billing discount appears on bill within 30 days of enrolling. If either automatic payments or paperless billing are canceled during the 12-month period, or if service is downgraded to Limited Basic only, the \$10/mo. discount will be discontinued. Restrictions apply. Not available in all areas. Limited to new residential Performance 100 Mbps Internet customers only. Equipment, installation, taxes and fees, and subject to change during and after promo. After promo, regular rates apply. Comcast's service charge for Performance Internet is \$77.95/mo. (subj. to change). Service limited to a single outlet. May not be combined with other offers. **Internet:** Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed. For factors affecting speed, visit [www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement](http://www.xfinity.com/networkmanagement). **Mobile:** Xfinity Mobile requires residential post-pay Xfinity Internet. Line limitations may vary. For Xfinity Mobile Broadband Disclosures, visit [www.xfinity.com/mobile/policies/broadband-disclosures](http://www.xfinity.com/mobile/policies/broadband-disclosures). Xfinity Mobile utilizes the highest ranked network from RootMetrics® 1H 2020 US report. WiFi networks not tested. Results may vary. Award is not endorsement. Individual programs and marks are property of their respective owners. Prepaid card offer: Must remain an Xfinity Mobile customer and maintain the Xfinity Internet service required for the offer for 90 days with account in good standing. Prepaid Card mailed to Comcast account holder within 18 weeks of activation of all required services and expires in 180 days. The Xfinity Mobile logo and "o" marks are trademark of Comcast. Call for restrictions and complete details. © 2020 Comcast. All rights reserved. NPA233814-0005 NED-WNE-Springfield-BF-Q4-V1





# SPORTS

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## Winter season postponed till January

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – In a bit of a switch from the normal decision-making processes filtering down, the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Conference made a pre-emptive decision about the upcoming winter season.

In Western Massachusetts, there will be no winter sports action before Jan. 14. Practices cannot begin before Jan. 4.

Agawam High School

Athletic Director David Stratton, a member of the PVIAC Board of Directors, said he believes a similar decision will be made by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association in the coming weeks.

“We looked at a number of things as it related to this decision,” said Stratton.

The top factor was learning from what schools and communities went through in the fall season.

“A number of towns and

their schools had to go in front of their school committees and the respective boards of health,” said Stratton. “And those boards only meet once or twice a month, so it took some times for towns to get the various approvals needed.”

Taking into account a full season will not be played, Stratton said delaying the season to January was the easiest step to take.

Just like the fall season, teams will play in geographic bubbles and will only be able to

get about 10 to 12 games at the most played.

Taking into account the holiday breaks as well as the winter weather, the winter season is usually the longest, starting in early December and ending in mid-March.

Stratton said other factors played into making the decision even easier to make. He said the current spike in COVID-19 cases made it easier for the PVIAC to take a break. The break will keep more students at home and reduce exposure

to the virus as the country prepares for possible distribution of a vaccine.

Stratton said the PVIAC expects the winter season to go from Jan. 14 to Feb. 21. He said one other proposal had the season going from Dec. 14 to Feb. 12, but said the point about towns needing time to get approvals prevailed.

Sports specific guidelines are scheduled to be made public soon, and local town boards and

See WINTER, page 9

## Pioneers join USL Academy League

LUDLOW – The Western Mass Pioneers have been endorsed as one of the founding members of the USL Academy League’s Northeast Division. The Academy League season is due to kick off in late spring 2021 and will provide clubs in all three of the USL’s senior divisions with an elite youth development and competition platform. As such, the clubs can now develop a more clearly defined path for the top youth prospects in their area to reach the professional and collegiate levels.

The Western Mass. Pioneers are the defending Northeast Conference Champions of USL League Two. The team will begin its 22nd season of play this coming spring – having won a National Championship in 1999. Over the years, several Pioneers’ players have gone on to the professional ranks; including Thomas McNamara of the New England Revolution and most recently Guzman Diaz of Club Deportivo Maldonado (Uruguay).

“This is a great opportunity for us to start preparing for the USL team in years to come and for players to compete with and against USL players in the future,” stated Pioneers Head Coach Federico Molinari.

The structure of the USL Academy League provides the Pioneers a progressive model to develop local players for their Senior Team, at a fraction of the cost of traditional pre-professional academies. Teams participating in the Academy League will field one elite youth team, made up of the top U15-U19 prospects in their area. Each team will limit the number of U18/19

players and will require a minimum number of U16/U17 players and encourage the clubs to integrate the top U15 players when developmentally appropriate.

“Whether a player is looking for a professional opportunity or a successful college career, the USL Academy League provides the perfect platform to bring together the top youth players in the area. The league is designed to supplement a player’s current program and with no age restrictions this will allow the best players in the area to develop and compete at the highest level,” added General Manager Joe Ferrara.

For more information on the Academy League and for tryout details contact Joe Ferrara at jferrara@wmpioneers.com or 413-330-9775.

More than 50 clubs across 25 states comprise the wide geographic footprint of the USL Academy League. The league will be divided into seven regions: Northeast, Atlantic, Southeast, Florida, East Central, South Central and Southwest. The 12 clubs set to compete in the Northeast Division of the USL Academy League and the territories in which they will compete in are as follows:

- Black Rock FC: Lake Placid, NY (USL League Two)
- Boston Bolts: Boston, MA (USL League Two)
- Cedar Stars Academy: South Hackensack, NJ (USL League Two)
- FA Euro New York: New York, NY (USL League Two)
- Hartford Athletic: Hartford, CT (USL

See PIONEERS, page 9

## Indoor track could move to bubble season

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Could indoor track become outdoor track this year?

Indoor track coaches around the region are looking at the possibility of that if a different solution is not found to hold indoor track when the winter season starts in January.

Indoor track facilities are few and far between in Western Massachusetts.

The teams in the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Conference have typically used Smith College over the past several years.

Several teams would each participate in one of two meets on Friday evenings. There would be a meet at 3:45 p.m. and a second meet at 6:45 p.m. Schools would be counted with certain schools matching up their results individually.

Smith College, like many college campuses, are not open for high schools to use for track meets. Springfield College, which has indoor track facilities, is also not available due to the pandemic.

With the Fall 2 or bubble season set to happen in February, coaches are discussing the idea of doing indoor track at the various artificial turf facilities available throughout the region.

“If the weather cooperates, we would be able to hold meets outside and would not have to rent a place like Smith College,” said Agawam High School track coach Dan Pryce. “We would have to modify a few of the events, but it would work really well.”

During indoor track, the running events including the 55 meter, 300 meter, 600 meter, and 1000 meter runs. The one



Indoor track is usually held at Smith College in Northampton, but that facility is unavailable this winter due to the pandemic.

File photos



Hurdles are another event that is part of the indoor track season. Indoor track could move outdoors in the bubble season in late February.

mile and two miles are events done in both the indoor and outdoor seasons, as well as the long jump, high jump, and shot put. The outdoor season has 100, 200, 400, and 800 meter races in comparison.

Pryce said while there is nothing official, there is a lot of good feedback among the indoor track coaches in the region to move indoor track to

See TRACK, page 9



# Western United Pioneers begin road to return



Noah Dunn works out for Pioneers coaches.

LUDLOW – The Western United Pioneers have had a long-standing tradition of great spring and summer soccer throughout the years, only to have that tradition, like many others, stopped

by COVID-19. With a vaccine on the horizon and hope for a regular 2021 season, the Pioneers hosted tryouts for their Senior League team. Several male competitors came out Saturday, Nov. 14

to try and make the team. Players from all over the Western Mass. region made their way to the tryout. Younger players tried out for the youth Pioneers teams throughout last week.



Coach Federico Molinari briefs the players on how tryouts will work.

Photos by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com)

# Full basketball ‘Bubbleville’ schedule released

UNCASVILLE, Conn. – The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and Gazelle Group today announced the complete schedule of matchups for the season-opening event known as “Bubbleville.” Games will be played Nov. 25 to Dec. 5 at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut. Bubbleville will house several events relocated and reimagined due to COVID-19 and provides a controlled environment with teams and event staff adhering to tribal, government, and NCAA health and safety protocols and testing requirements.

At this time, all games are expected to be played without fans in attendance. The event will feature 45 games in 11 days, showcasing 40 NCAA Division I men’s and women’s teams. The schedule will be headlined by several preseason ranked squads including #2 Baylor, #3 Villanova, #4 Virginia, #18 Arizona State and #20 Oregon for the men and #3 UConn, #5 Louisville and #6 Mississippi State for the women. Select games will be available on ESPN networks. All games airing on ESPN networks will also be available on the ESPN App, accessible

on computers, smartphones, tablets and connected devices to fans who receive their video subscription from an affiliated provider. All other games will be streamed via FloHoops. The schedule to date is available in the attached PDF, along with broadcast information. In the coming days, additional games featuring Oregon and Missouri will be added to the schedule on December 2 and 3. Each school will play two games, including one game against each other. Events taking place in Bubbleville include the Roman Legends Classic pre-

sented by Old Trapper, the 2K Empire Classic benefiting Wounded Warrior Project presented by Continental Tire, the HomeLight Classic, the Air Force Reserve Basketball Hall of Fame Tip-Off Tournament, the Air Force Reserve Basketball Hall of Fame Women’s Challenge, the Jimmy V Women’s Classic and several pods and single game contests developed specifically for Bubbleville. To learn more, visit <https://www.hoopshall.com/events/bubbleville> or follow @hoophall #Bubbleville on Twitter and Instagram.

## Help feature your student-athletes

The fall season is nearing its end and Turley Publications has been all over the action. But with this unpredictable season there have been temporary or in some cases, permanent stoppages in play, and we still want to help feature your athletes, especially those who are seniors this year. We continue to ask for help on this season in order to bring the best coverage we can possibly manage and fill our pages with names and color. We know that fans will be limited to the home crowds, but that is where you all come in. We have a limited number of staff to start the school year due to the pandemic, and while we strive to get to as many games as possible, we cannot get to everywhere. If you are a parent, coach, or even player, and you have information or photographs to share, we definitely want to hear from you.

If you don’t see one of our photographers at a game, please feel free to send your own action photos of games in order to bolster our coverage. If you are interested in regularly submitted photos, please do contact us. Otherwise, we would love to hear from anyone who reports scores, details, and any milestones that occur during this unprecedented season. Please be sure the information you provide us is accurate and check with coaches, if necessary, before submitting. Additionally, with the various senior games that have been held already or are still waiting to be held, we welcome submitted photos from those events and information about graduating seniors who participated in Fall 1 sports. We also encourage all coaches to submit their results and details as much as possible. Send any and all information and photos for inclusion to [sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com).

### PIONEERS, from page 8

- Championship)
- Ironbound SC: Newark, NJ (Part of the New York Red Bulls’ player pathway)
  - Long Island Rough Riders: Long Island, NY (USL League Two)
  - Morris Elite: Madison, NJ (USL League Two)
  - Queensboro FC: New York, NY (USL Championship)
  - Seacoast United: Portsmouth, NH (USL League Two)
  - Westchester Flames: Westchester, NY (USL League Two)
  - Western Mass Pioneers: Ludlow, MA (USL League Two)
- The launch of the USL Academy

League will help all USL clubs identify top prospects, and provide more players with the opportunity to compete against professionals at a younger age. The 2020 USL Championship season has shown that young players on USL Academy contracts can break through to their local Senior Teams. Players like Orange County SC’s Aaron Cervantes and Francis Jacobs, San Antonio FC’s Jose Gallegos, Austin Bold FC’s Beto Avila, Birmingham Legion FC’s Jaden Servania, Sacramento Republic FC’s Hayden Sargis, Indy Eleven’s Josh Penn and Phoenix Rising FC’s Ansu Kanneh, among others, demonstrate the benefits of an established youth development pathway at USL clubs.

## Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching “turleysports.” We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with

your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections in the coming weeks, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

### TRACK, from page 8

the bubble season so competitors can take part in the sports. There is potential competition in the sport if it moves to the bubble season. Football is currently scheduled to be the main sport during the bubble

ble season, set to go from Feb. 22 to mid-April. Because football is normally a fall sport and indoor track a winter sport, some students may have to choose one sport over the other if they are normally involved in both. Cheerleading is also currently supposed to be part of the Fall 2 season.

### WINTER, from page 8

school committee members would have to review them and see if they want their schools to participate. As of now, basketball and hockey are supposed to be played while wrestling will not be allowed to have any school-to-school competition. Stratton said while news of a vaccine continues to circulate, the PVIAC and MIAA are continuing to prepare for seasons as if the pandemic is still in effect. “We are preparing for the conditions that currently exist until we have information that would cause us to do otherwise,” said Stratton.

The Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs issues the guidance high schools are using to play sports currently. The EEA was scheduled to release guidance for winter sports to be considered by the various subcommittees of the MIAA Board of Directors. Stratton, who is on the Sports Medicine Committee, said votes on the guidelines are ongoing. Stratton said the PVIAC will re-evaluate the bubble leagues schools will play in. They were geographically-based, but the number of schools participating in the winter season could change. He also said with a limited number of ice hockey teams, those bubble leagues will look much different.



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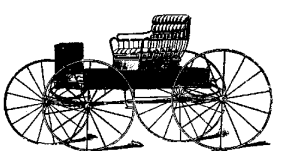
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## LEARNING, from page 1

every praise she gave she would put a golden start sticker on her face. By the time the class was over there were 20 or more stickers on her face, but the students enjoyed it.

Teachers can't always do the same thing so they're constantly things of ways to keep students interested in class. The students often work together in class, and the staff wanted to continue to do that so students are able to phone a friend during class. They can call on a peer during class for help and support. The teachers have also been able to make sure the small group collaborative instructions can still occur.

A group of five or six students go to a break-off room with a teacher or paraprofessional, from there they will

problem solve together and learn from each other. Doing these break out rooms online is a way to keep students collaborating.

"The rooms have mixed results, I observed a breakout room were kids were working together well but I've seen when they get distracted too," Soria said. "It gives more individual focus and is a way to check for understanding."

Soria explains that the teachers' creativity and the students grit to stay focused is keeping online learning going, it's not easy but they're making things work. With the recent spike in cases in Holyoke, Soria says that it keeps the staff and students aware and informed of what's happening and that there's still an issue. The virus continues to be real and staff and students need to be diligent in wearing masks, washing hands, and social distancing.

"We have to remember how to proceed together for each other," Soria said. "Teachers are diligent in staying safe and they're diligent when in class online." Soria says that the staff likes working together and it helps to keep up the spirit and collaborative between everyone. Kelly school serves Pre-K to fourth grade and eighth grade, they used to have all grades through eighth, but the virus has changed more than in person learning.

There are bands of grades that are separated as the district returns to the middle school model. Grades sixth through eighth or sometime seventh and eighth are separated in online classes, it's because there are such different needs between the grades. The school district recently sent out surveys to parents about returning kids to in person learning, the district is working on phasing kids back into schools but they have to do it in a

safe way and watch the cases numbers.

The youngest learners would return first and the staff would learn and adapt as more grades are allowed back in schools. For no the school will continue to come up will fun incentives to keep kids engaged, and Soria will continue to pop into classrooms.

"I'm going into the classrooms to say hi and bring some help to the table where it's needed, I'm not just observing," Soria said. "It can be distracting because kids see me and chat with me, so I have to keep them on track but I enjoy interacting with them that way."

The teachers are passionate, the students are hardworking, and the school is supplying teachers some normalcy to help them carry out classes. Staff is making sure that while they are online learning, students are having fun, are engaged, and are actually learning.

## FOOD, from page 1

much needed food to member agencies spread throughout Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties.

Established in 1982, the Food Bank serves dozens of independent pantries, meal sites, shelters and food assistance programs in western Massachusetts. The operation is a member of Feeding America, a national network of more than 200 food banks.

During the pandemic, the Food Bank's demand has increased dramatically. Baulding detailed the added responsibility that the facility has assumed over the past eight months.

"We have seen an increase in the amount of people who have needed our services because of COVID," said Baulding. "Many people have come in for the first time. They may have never thought that they'd ever need assistance from the Food Bank or a food pantry but they do because of job losses."

Baulding credited the community's support for keeping the Food Bank alive and thriving during a challenging year. The massive 35,000 square-foot warehouse that employs 45 serves as the headquarters for the entire operation and is currently abuzz with energy and productivity.

"People are working double-time, from the pickers who pick the food and put it together for our member agencies to the volunteers who are in our sorting room who are actually putting boxes of food together. It's really incredible," said Baulding.

One of the greatest obstacles that the pandemic has placed before the Food Bank is a dwindling amount of food donations. COVID-19 protocols prohibit the facility from accepting most food donations from the public.

For residents looking to contribute, monetary donations are highly significant and much needed. Baulding noted that monetary donations have allowed the

Food Bank to make up for absence of food donations that it had been previously accustomed to receiving.

"It's critical because for every dollar donated, we can provide four full, healthy meals," said Baulding. "That means one individual could get four meals, and it's not just one part of the meal; it's the entire meal, or a family of four could have a dinner. It's critical, particularly at this time where so many of our neighbors are out of work or maybe their hours have been cut dramatically."

As temperatures continue to decrease, nutritious meals become more essential. On a regular basis, the Food Bank's Mobile Food Bank visits 27 locations in western Mass., distributing healthy food items.

"We want to help people stay healthy and strong as they are going through this difficult time," said Baulding.

On Nov. 23 and 24, the Food Bank will participate in Monte's March, a

43-mile masked march that will begin in Springfield and finish in Greenfield, covering three counties. Monte Belmonte, a radio personality for 93.9 WRSI, leads the annual initiative.

Those who participate in the march will push empty shopping carts along the entirety of the route to raise awareness about hunger in the region and funds to stop it in its tracks. This year, the fundraiser aims to raise \$365,000, which is the equivalent of 4,000 meals per day for an entire calendar year.

"We pivoted this year, and it's going to work. It's going to be on a smaller scale, and we're asking people to donate what they can," said Baulding. "If they can't come out and march with us, perhaps they can virtually march online, or they can donate on those two days or online as well."

To register for Monte's March or donate to the Food Bank, visit <https://www.foodbankwma.org/events/montes-march11/>.

## GARDEN, from page 4

Did you know that you can substitute home grown cooked winter squash for any recipe that calls for canned pumpkin, even pumpkin pie? Most folks know that it is squash inside the can anyhow....sweeter and less stringy than their pumpkin cousins. While butternuts are my favorite to grow, I do also like the 'Delicata' and 'Sweet Dumplings' for

taste. They are rich with a depth of flavor. I just wish they were more productive. One plant produces three fruits at the most.

I think I am going to give squash growing a break for a year. Maybe the borers will go away and I'll be blessed with a good harvest sometime in the future. It would be really sad to think my squash growing days are over. That makes me think about what I should be grateful for this year, garden-wise. Kale, spinach

and the cut flowers come to mind...ah, the flowers. I am especially excited about my growing dahlia collection. It would be fun to trade tubers and share the wealth!

But alas, I digress...Let's get back on topic. Don't feel the need to gobble up your butternut squash bounty in a hurry; this type of squash has been known to keep through spring and beyond if stored in a dry, 55-degree location. For me, the mudroom has always worked out well to store my winter squash. My mom, on the

other hand, has good luck placing hers in trays off the floor in her basement. Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



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